



March 30, 2015

Island Insight

This publication is published weekly and contains information about, for, and of interest to the Island Workforce. This document is also available on the Garrison Internet page under "Information" and on the installation website at www.usagria.army.mil under "News" and then "Local News."

Island Insight Submission: <https://home.ria.army.mil/sites/ii/ii.cfm>

Sections:

- [Arsenal Traffic/Construction](#)
- [Building/Space Closures](#)
- [Active Duty/Reserve Zone](#)
- [Safety Spotlight](#)
- [Equal Employment Opportunity Focus](#)
- [Morale, Welfare & Recreation \(MWR\)](#)
- [MWR Leisure Travel Office](#)
- [Child, Youth & School Services](#)
- [Army Community \(ACS\)](#)
- [Employee Assistance Program](#)
- [Education/Training Review](#)
- [Defense Commissary Agency/PX](#)
- [Arsenal Archive](#)
- [Healthbeat](#)
- [Notes for Veterans](#)
- [Around the O.C.](#)

252 Years of Combined Service Lauded During Rock Island Arsenal Retirement Ceremony

Brig. Gen. Kristin French, commanding general, Joint Munitions Command, thanked seven Soldiers and three Army civilians for their service to the nation during a retirement and retreat ceremony held March 26 on Rock Island Arsenal.

"Retirement and retreat ceremonies are a part of long-standing military tradition," said French. "They provide military units an opportunity to acknowledge the selfless service and sacrifices of our retirees as they leave long and honorable careers in service to the United States Army and our nation. Today's retirement ceremony is a testament to their abilities and faithful execution of their duties... to our Army... and our nation. Our 10 distinguished retirees have performed their duties for a combined total of 252 years!" French elaborated and put that time into perspective which should hit home for any American. "Think about that for a moment... 252 years of combined service to our nation... that's longer than the United States has existed, as a free, democratic nation... thanks in



Upcoming Dates

- April 1:** Military Singles & Geo-Bachelors Dinner, USO, 5-7 p.m.
- April 3:** Island-Wide Social, Lock and Dam Lounge, Bldg. 60, 4 p.m.
- April 4:** Easter Eggstravaganza, Memorial Park, 10 a.m.
- April 5:** MWR Easter Brunch, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- April 7:** Tornado Drill, Island-wide, 10 a.m.
- April 7-9:** DA Photo Studio, Bldg. 56, Basement
- April 8:** SAAPM Proclamation Ceremony, Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, 11:30 a.m.
- April 8:** Tenant Senior NCO Meeting, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.
- April 9:** Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 12:30 p.m.
- April 10:** Denim & Diamonds Dinner and Charity Auction (Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse)
- April 11:** Child Abuse Proclamation Ceremony, Fitness Center Lawn, 9:30 a.m.
- April 11:** 2nd Annual Youth Summertime Activities Expo, Fitness Center, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- April 13:** Fort Armstrong Ave., Rock Island Viaduct, and Rock Island Gate Closure Begins
- April 15:** RIA Employment/Education Event, Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, 9:30 a.m.
- April 21:** Holocaust Remembrance Day Observance, Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, 1 p.m.

part to the noble service provided by these ten individuals we honor today," said French. "Two hundred and fifty two combined years is a truly amazing number and highlights the collective dedication and commitment these Department of Army civilians and Soldiers have provided to our Army. I want to personally applaud you for your outstanding efforts over the years."

ASC SES Talks Gender Equity at Observance

No seats were left empty in Heritage Hall during the Women's History Month Observance, here, March 23. This year's theme is "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives," and marks the 35th anniversary of the Women's History Movement, and National Women's History Project. The event began with the national anthem, sung by Jereen Phillips-Hardin and Everline Barnard, both of U.S. Army Sustainment Command. After the invocation, led by ASC Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Robert Land, a short video entitled "Women's History Month Movement" was shown, followed by a presentation of Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal Women," recited by Tyla Cole, archivist, Diocese of Davenport. Kathryn Szymanski, chief counsel, ASC, was the guest speaker. ([More](#))



JMC Staff Meet to Discuss Ammo Workload Requirements

Joint Munitions Command staff, and its Department of Defense partners, met here at the JMC headquarters, March 24 - 25, to discuss projected ammunition workload requirements. More than 80 senior representatives attended from organizations that included; Army Aviation and Missile Command, TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, Program Executive Office - Ammunition, the Marine Corps, the Navy, the Air Force and eight of JMC's subordinate installation sites. Brig. Gen. Kristin K. French, JMC commander, welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their participation. ([More](#))



Black Civil War Soldiers Buried at Rock Island National Cemetery

It's history in our own backyard. The southwest corner of the National Cemetery on Arsenal Island is where 50 Union soldiers from the 108th U.S. Colored Infantry are buried. Civil War historian Ed Reiter calls it hallowed ground. The final resting place for black soldiers who guarded Confederate prisoners on the Island during the Civil War. Most of the headstones are original and so are the stories behind them. The soldiers enlisted in the Union Army. Most were from Kentucky. They joined the military to fight against the system that had kept them enslaved for so many years. There were 980 Black Soldiers in the 108th. ([More](#))



IMCOM 2025 and Beyond

The Installation Management Command (IMCOM) 2025 and Beyond (I2025B) Campaign Plan is the roadmap for Army installation management during the next decade and beyond. This plan begins in Fiscal Year (FY) 15 with a campaign period of seven years, but as a strategy looks as far out as 2025 and beyond. The I2025B Campaign Plan supports the Army Campaign Plan (ACP), Force 2025 and Beyond (F2025B), and other higher strategies. The objectives of the I2025B Campaign Plan are to enable installations to stay globally responsive as readiness platforms for

training and deployment of the expeditionary war fighters. The plan is focused on three lines of effort: people, services, and infrastructure. ([More](#))

Arsenal Ceremony Honors All Who Served In Vietnam

Quad Cities Chapter 299 of Vietnam Veterans of America hosted a ceremony Sunday to honor all of those who served and those who died, as well as the families they left behind. Following the ceremony, the Rock Island Arsenal Museum cut the ribbon on a new display commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The display included uniforms, photos, equipment servicemen carried while in battle and artwork from Vietnam. Some of the items displayed belong to retired Marine Capt. Howard VanWinkle, who attended the ribbon cutting. He said the display showcases a vital piece of U.S. history. "I feel privileged to be a part of it," he said, adding he felt privileged to survive the war. ([More](#))



JMC Donates Excess Chairs to Other Agencies

In an effort to recycle excess chairs, on March 24 and 25, Joint Munitions Command staff coordinated the donation of more than 650 chairs to other agencies outside of the federal government. Through the determined efforts of Staff Sgt. Robert Hanners and Rudy Toth, JMC building manager, arrangements were made to donate the chairs to three non-federal agencies. As part of the recent reorganization at Headquarters JMC, Roth purchased new office chairs for its employees who requested them. As a result, more than 650 used, but serviceable, chairs were deemed excess. Not wanting to throw away chairs that could possibly be used by local, state, federal or non-profit agencies, Staff Sgt. Hanners worked with a General Services Agency representative out of the Chicago area to find interested parties. ([More](#))



DoD Warns Troops, Families to Be Cyber-Crime Smart

The Department of Defense, or DoD, employees and their families should be vigilant when guarding personal and work information from expanding cyber-criminal activity, and to know how to recognize scammer tactics, the department's chief information officer said. Terry A. Halvorsen issued a DoD-wide memorandum March 18 about the growing threat of cyber-crime "phishing" and "spear phishing" in emails, on social media sites and through phone calls. "Phishing" is defined as sending fraudulent emails that claim to be from reputable sources, such as a recipient's bank or credit card company, to gain personal or financial information. ([More](#))



The Army Cloud Computing Strategy

The Army Cloud Computing Strategy sets the strategic direction and guidance to posture the Army for maintaining a secure operating environment while transitioning the Army's information technology (IT) infrastructure, systems, software and application platforms; data assets; and related business processes and practices. It is the overarching plan for the transition to cloud-based solutions. The Army Cloud Computing Strategy is designed to establish and communicate the Army's vision and strategy for transitioning to a cloud-enabled network, to improve mission and

business effectiveness, increase operational IT efficiencies and protect Army data and infrastructure. The strategy extends the baseline and concepts defined in the various federal, DOD and Army documents to meet specific Army requirements. ([More](#))

App Shows Veterans, Military Discounts

Active duty soldiers and veterans in the Quad Cities now have a mobile-friendly way to receive business discounts. Founded by Marine veteran Aaron Serrano, Military Cost Cutters is a phone app that allows veterans and those in the military or reserves to see which local businesses will give them discounts. Chief Operating Officer Todd Morris says veterans are often prone to identity theft--but the Military Cost Cutters app makes sure their identity is secure. The app was created in October. Morris says the app has been downloaded 4,000 times so far and 75 businesses are participating. ([More](#))



Good Friday Service

There will be a Good Friday Service recalling the events of Holy Week through scripture and song on Friday, **April 3**, in the Arsenal Club, Bldg. 60, 11:30 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. The service is sponsored by the Army Sustainment Command Chaplains Office. For more information and/or to contact the [ASC Unit Ministry Team](#) call 309-782-0910. The ASC Chaplains' Office mission is to provide religious support for all U.S. military personnel, DA/DoD civilians, and their family members within the command. Support the free exercise of religion within the command. Support the command in conducting/coordinating their religious program.



Volunteer Recognition Ceremony

Without the help of our dedicated corps of volunteers many commands and programs here at the Arsenal would certainly not be the same, please consider coming out Thursday, **April 9**, at 12:30 p.m., in the Arsenal Island Clubhouse, to say thanks during our annual volunteer recognition ceremony. Call 309-782-0816 for more info. ([Flyer](#))



Youth Summertime Activities Expo & Pinwheel Garden Dedication Ceremony

Don't miss the 2nd Annual Youth Summertime Activities Expo Saturday, **April 11**, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Fitness Center, in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month (ACS/FAP) and Month of the Military Child (CYSS). Businesses from all over the QC area will have booths to provide information to parents on what activities they have for youth during the upcoming summer. In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month, a pinwheel garden (sponsored by Child Abuse Council) will be displayed as well as a proclamation signing ceremony will be held just before the opening of the Expo. Call 309-782-3049 or 309-782-2165 for more info. ([Flyer](#))



Looking for Volunteers: Pinwheel Garden

We need your help! In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the RIA Family Advocacy Program is teaming with the Child Abuse Council of the Quad Cities to "plant" a Pinwheel Garden. This garden will consist of 250 pinwheels stuck in the ground and will be located in front of the Fitness Center, Bldg. 67. This is a family event, so bring the kids out and support the cause. Stay for

the dedication ceremony at 9:30 a.m. and attend the Youth Summertime Activities Expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. that same day in the Fitness Center. If interested in volunteering, please contact 309-782-3049 or e-mail jennifer.a.kerr10.civ@mail.mil for more details.

Date: **Saturday, April 11**

Time: **8:30-10:00 a.m.**

Corps to Host Boating Safety Classes

Boating can be a fun and entertaining summer activity but one close call on the water can end it all. To help get ready for the upcoming boating season, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi River Project will be offering free boating safety education classes at the Mississippi River Project Office in Pleasant Valley, Iowa. Classes will be offered **April 11, April 25, and May 2**. Only one eight-hour class is required to complete certification. Pre-registration is required, space is limited, and the classes fill quickly. To register, contact the park rangers at (309) 794-5338.



Tax Season Is Here

Income tax filing season is here and the Rock Island Arsenal will again host a free tax assistance center. The Rock Island Arsenal Tax Center, located on the 1st Floor of Bldg. 390, will be operational effective Jan. 28. The tax center serves members of the RIA community eligible for legal assistance services - primarily active duty service members, military retirees, and family members. In a change from recent years, an appointment is required and there is no "drop-off" service. Appointments will be available weekdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., starting the last week of **January through April 15**. Most appointments can be expected to take about an hour, with more complex returns taking longer. In accordance with IRS guidelines, the tax center may prepare and submit most – but not all – federal and state income tax returns. For example, we cannot prepare returns for a home-based business. If you expect your return to be complex, please discuss that with us when you call, and we can advise as to whether we will be able to prepare your return. To schedule an appointment please call 309-782-1709/8457. Please bring the following to your appointment: a photo ID; your social security card (or official SSA correspondence with your SSN on it); documents showing income of any type (W-2s, 1099s, etc.); documents to support any deductions/credits; copy of last year's return; direct deposit information; dependents' birth dates.



Blood Drives

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is hosting a blood drive at the Lock and Dam Lounge (in Bldg. 60), on **Friday, April 10 & 17, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** If you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to e-mail SHoegerl@mvrbc.com with the time you'd like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at 563-359-5401, ext. 119. We will host a **2nd shift Blood Drive** at JMTC in the Bldg. 211 cafeteria on **Friday, April 10**. The drive begins at 6:30 p.m. Donors should contact their supervisor to sign up. **Vista Technical Services Blood Drive: Wednesday, April 8, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, MVRBC Donor Bus parked by entrance #3 at Bldg. 350. To sign up, contact [Paula Johnson](#). **Also, a slight change in that every donor must present photo ID or a blood donor card to be eligible to donate blood. Arsenal badges are acceptable.**



The Army encourages its employees to volunteer as candidates for any of the variety of medical donor programs, including blood, bone marrow, and organ donor/transplant programs. For additional information [click here](#).

Base Supply Center Closure

The Base Supply Center (paperclips, etc.) will be closed on Friday, **April 3**.

VIOS Schedule for April and May

Official DA Studio Photography (DA, Government passport and command photos) will be offered at Rock Island Arsenal on **April 7, 8, 9** and **May 5, 6, 7**. Appointments may be scheduled online by submitting a DA Form 3903 Work Request using the [Visual Information Ordering Site](#) for the available times: 7:20 a.m. - 3:40 p.m. Click on "Frequently Asked Questions" on the [VIOS site](#) for more information. Walk-in appointments are not available. Photographs will be taken at the Photo Studio (Bldg. 56, basement, by elevator). Priority is: 1. Active duty Soldier's DA photos; 2. Official government passport photos; 3. Official command photos; 4. DA photos for Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers (not on active duty). The 8"x10" head and shoulders - command photos will be printed and available digitally. Additional prints can be ordered in [VIOS](#). To obtain an official government passport photo: 1. Schedule a passport photo appointment at the [RIA VIOS website](#). 2. Go to transportation to obtain a printed DA Form 3903, Multi-Media/Visual Information Work Order, signed by the passport agent in Block 14. 3. Present that DA Form 3903 to the photographer before the passport photo is taken. You will receive two 2" x 2" passport photos. All scheduled dates can be found on the [RIA VIOS website](#) FAQ.

SAAPM Proclamation Ceremony

On behalf of Maj. Gen. Kevin O'Connell, and the Rock Island Arsenal SHARP Team, everyone is cordially invited to attend and be witness to the Rock Island Arsenal Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month Proclamation signing ceremony held at Heritage Hall on **April 8**, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The keynote speaker is Maj. Gen. Kevin O'Connell, commanding general, Army Sustainment Command. The proclamation signing is to show rededication, commitment, and support of the Sexual Harassment Assault Response Prevention Program. The theme for SAAPM is "Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know your Part, Do your Part." ([StandTo!](#))



Denim & Diamonds Dinner and Charity Auction

The Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club invites you to the Inaugural Denim & Diamonds Dinner and Charity Auction on **April 10**, 6-10 p.m., at the Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse. Cost is \$25 per person which includes dinner; menu items include BBQ buffet, brisket and chicken, potato salad, baked beans, and peach cobbler. All proceeds to benefit scholarship and community outreach grants. Tickets are on sale now. Contact RIAWCVP@yahoo.com for more information.

Walk-In Pet Vaccination Clinic

The Great Lakes Veterinary Services will be hosting a pet vaccination clinic Thursday, **April 23**, 1-6 p.m.; and Friday, **April 24**, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department. All active duty military, military reserve and National Guard, military retirees, and dependents with valid identification cards are eligible to use this service. There is a charge for all services provided with payment in cash or check only. Please see [our website](#) for prices. Questions? Please call at (847) 688-5740 ext. 4.



RIA SAAM Walk/Run

The Rock Island Arsenal SHARP Team invites you to help raise awareness against sexual assault by participating in the Rock Island Arsenal Sexual Assault Awareness Month Walk/Run on Friday, **April 24**, at 6:20 a.m., beginning at the Memorial Field parking lot. The theme for SAAPM is "Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know your Part, Do your Part." Tshirts for the walk/run event are available for purchase at <https://www.customink.com/g/aux0-0021-u79m> Note: The site will not allow you to order using Internet Explorer, but you may be able to use Mozilla Firefox or call customer service at 800-293-4232. Please, no pets allowed at the event.

Honor Flight Golf Outing

Join us for the Inaugural R.I.A. Federal Credit Union Honor Flight Golf Outing, Friday, **April 24**. Check-in begins 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$300/team or \$75/person. There's a 36 team limit. Lunch will be provided at check-in. A 19th Hole Party at the Clubhouse is also included. Proceeds will benefit Honor Flight of the Quad Cities. Send registration and/or sponsorship payment(s) to: Jake Ward, R.I.A. FCU, PO Box 4750, Rock Island, IL 61204. POC for the event is Jake at 563-355-3800 ext. 7004 or jward@riafcu.com.

RIA Ladies Golf League

Looking for evenings of fun and fellowship? If so, the RIA Ladies Golf League is the place. The league begins **May 12** and ends **Aug. 25**. The league plays on Tuesdays at Saukie Golf Course and is for all levels of play. Kickoff meeting will be **April 14**. If interested please attend kickoff meeting or contact [Jeanine Blevins](#) at 563-324-3465 or [Brenda Hanes](#) at 309-794-0115 for further information.

Save the Date -- 240th Army Birthday Ball

The Rock Island Arsenal and Quad-City area military community will celebrate the 240th Army Birthday Ball on Saturday, **June 13**, starting at 5:30 p.m., at the Quad Cities Waterfront Convention Center, 2021 State Street, in Bettendorf. Cost per Person is \$45 per person (E-7/GS-8/WG-6/NF3 and above); and \$38 per person (E-6/GS-7/WG-5/NF2 and below). Dress... Military: Dress Mess/Army Service Uniform with white shirt and bow tie; Civilian: Tuxedo or dark suit. Please RSVP by **May 18** to ASC Protocol at 309-782-2410. The event will include: a social hour/receiving line; the National Anthem and posting of the Colors; streamer ceremony; champagne toasts; dinner; guest speaker – Sgt. Gary Beikirch, Medal of Honor recipient; Retiring of the Colors; and Dancing.



RIA AUSA Annual Golf Outing - Save the Date

Save the Date! RIA AUSA will hold its annual golf outing and fundraiser on Friday, **July 17**. Sponsorship and entry forms will be forthcoming soon. Visit www.ria-ausa.org to keep posted about chapter activities. ([Flyer](#))

Arsenal Island Employee Local Discounts

The following discounts are exclusively available to Arsenal Island employees — **Chocolate Manor:** All Arsenal Island military and civilian employees will receive a 10 percent discount off their total purchase on any of our award winning homemade chocolates at 110 E. 2nd St., Davenport, just show your ID. **Roosters Sports Bar and Grill:** All military and civilian's get 10 percent off their bill. Come head down for lunch at 2130 3rd St., Rock Island, new specials daily. **Peachwave Frozen Yogurt:** Peachwave, 3431 Devils Glen Rd., Bettendorf, offers a 10 percent discount every day to all military and veterans. *This information is included for general workforce interest and does not constitute endorsement of the businesses or products.*

Arsenal Traffic/Construction



Fort Armstrong Avenue Construction

Rock Island Arsenal will be performing road work on the intersection of Fort Armstrong Avenue and Rock Island Drive. This work will result in a full vehicle closure of the Arsenal's Rock Island Gate and Rock Island Viaduct, as well as restricting vehicles crossing the Government Bridge to "Installation-only" traffic. Signs and barricades will be posted to warn and direct traffic. The American Discovery Trail will remain open. Weather permitting, work is scheduled to begin **April 13**. At that time the Rock Island Gate will be closed and the Davenport Gate will be opened 24/7 for ingress and egress to Rock Island Arsenal. This will continue until construction work is completed, currently anticipated to be in **late May or early June**. Upon project completion, the Rock Island gate will reopen for normal operations.

Parking Closure Near Bldg. 64

Effective **March 1** through Wednesday, **July 1**, the Directorate of Public Works will begin replacing the roof on Bldg. 64. Parking along the east side of the street (2nd Street) will be closed **March 1 through May 8**. Parking along the west side of the street (3rd street) will be closed **April 17 through July 1**. During these closures fencing, barricades, and signage will be positioned, as required. Timeframes may be extended depending on weather related issues.

Rock Island Viaduct Sidewalk Closed to Pedestrians

"Sidewalk Closed" signs have been erected at either end of the Rock Island Viaduct sidewalk. These signs were placed because of the tripping hazard that the condition of the sidewalk presents. Attached illustration indicates the suggested alternative route (STR276 American Discovery Trail and Pedestrian Bridge) during the closure.

Building/Space Closures



There are no announcements at this time.

Active Duty/Reserve Zone



Military Singles & Geo-Bachelors Dinner

Come all ranks and all branches to the Military Singles & Geo-bachelors Dinner on **April 1**, 5-7 p.m., in the USO spaces in Bldg. 110. The menu for the evening is slated to include: fried chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, rolls, and dessert. For more information and to RSVP please contact Jackie Inman at 309-782-3896 or via email at jinman@usoofillinois.org.

Army Health Leaders Advocate For Importance of Nutrition

During National Nutrition Month in March, "we encourage each of you to renew a commitment to achieving your personal Performance Triad goals," said Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho. This year's theme is "Bite into a Healthy Lifestyle," she said. The Performance Triad focuses on the importance of sleep, activity and nutrition as a way to boost Soldier and Family performance and resilience, said Maj. Bethany A. Belanger, PhD and registered dietitian. She serves as the nutrition lead for the System for Health and Performance Triad at the Army Office of the Surgeon General. The reason nutrition is part of Performance Triad is that there is a proven interaction among sleep, activity and nutrition, meaning a healthy or unhealthy choice in one impacts the others, she said. ([More](#))

RIA MWR Army 10-miler

All active duty military are invited to try out for the Rock Island Arsenal Army Ten Miler team by competing in the **May 2** qualifying run. The top eight finishers (male or female) will comprise the Rock Island Arsenal team. Run starts at 6:30 a.m. in front of the Sports Complex here on Arsenal Island. Call 309-782-6787 for additional general information. All runners must register at the Fitness Center by **April 17**. The registration form is included in the attached packet. The completed registration needs to be returned to the Fitness Center where participants can pick up their number or they can just go to the Fitness Center and sign up and pick up their number. Call 309-782-6202 for additional information about the registration. Volunteers are also needed for this event. Interested Soldiers can contact the [POC](#) to volunteer and assist with the event.

Putnam Museum is a Blue Star Member Institution

The Putnam is now one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense. Any active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve, and up to five family members, receive free admission to the Museum and Science Center **Memorial Day through Labor Day**. "We are honored and excited to be able to bring this program to our Quad Cities Military families," said President and CEO Kim Findlay. "Through our participation in the Blue Star Museums program, we are able to show our continued support for all our active military and thank them for their hard work and sacrifices." Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. The program provides families an



opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their new communities after a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums.

Inaugural Island-wide Baby Shower

Mark your calendars and save the date for the Inaugural Island-wide Baby Shower hosted by the Iowa State Chapter, Mississippi Valley Division March of Dimes. The event will take place **May 19**, 10 a.m. – Noon, at the Arsenal Island Golf Course Clubhouse. This baby shower is for all expecting Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve with military ID card holder spouses. To RSVP for the event, contact Deena at 563-323-6378. Space is Limited.



YMCA Camp Abe Lincoln Military Kids Camp

Military Kids Camp is a specialty camp for children with parents in the service. It is a great opportunity to build a community for military children ages 8-16 from **June 28 - July 3**. We have funding this year and are pleased to offer this camp again, free of charge. Space is limited, so we are currently [accepting applications here](#).

Military 4-H Scrapbooking SPIN Club

Explore, Engage, Innovate... the world of scrapbooking. Take photos you have and create a scrapbook that will last a lifetime. Each month youth will learn a new scrapbooking technique and create a page. Snacks will be at each meeting. Eligibility includes military youth, ages 12-18. This program will meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month, **Feb. 18 to Dec. 16**, 5:30-7 p.m., in the Cassion Room, in Bldg. 60. Cost includes a supply fee of \$20; non-4-H members add a \$20 program fee (fee waivers available upon request). [Register online today!](#) Or for more information call the University of Illinois Extension, Rock Island County 4-H Office at 309-756-9978.

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate call 309-756-9978 at least two weeks in advance.



Safety Spotlight



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**



Arrive Alive

I know we all take safety very seriously. However, we have had a substantial rise in fatal sedan accidents over the last 90 days. We, as senior leaders, must be more engaged, communicating at all leader levels how imperative safe driving is to preserve our force, across all components. To date this fiscal year, 68 percent of all private motor vehicle fatalities reported Army-wide involved Soldiers in the rank of E1 through E4 and 63 percent were between the ages of 18 and 24. The majority of all fatal PMV-4 accidents were single vehicle accidents, often caused by excessive speed, distracted or inattentive driving. Most occurred over the weekend period Friday through Sunday, with the majority of the accidents occurring between the hours of 0500 and 1700 and not during periods of limited visibility. As Leaders, we must consistently engage our Soldiers and remind them of the hazards inherent to driving, particularly in inclement weather. Emphasize the risks of inattentive driving and encourage safe arrivals without multi-tasking while en route. As our engaged Leaders mitigate driving risks for our Soldiers brought about by cold weather road hazards,

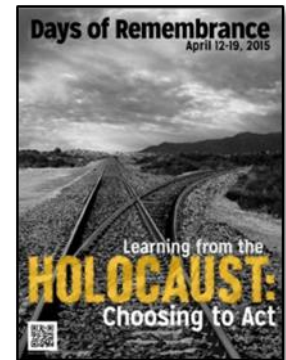
we must also prepare for the arrival of spring, warmer weather, and all the high risk activities this season reintroduces. Let's get all our Leaders engaged and proactive in restoring "Arrive Alive" as our recurrent travel outcome. We're counting on every Soldier to strengthen our great team. Army Safe is Army Strong! - *Gen. Daniel Allyn, Army Vice Chief of Staff*

Equal Employment Opportunity Focus



Holocaust Days of Remembrance Poster Released

In observance of the Holocaust Days of Remembrance, observed each year during the week of Remembrance that runs from the Sunday before Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashanah) through the following Sunday, the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute proudly announces original artwork available for download from DEOMI's public website, www.deomi.org. This year, the Holocaust Days of Remembrance Week will be observed from April 12-19. Holocaust Remembrance Day is Thursday, April 16. The United States Congress established the Days of Remembrance as our nation's annual commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, www.ushmm.org, as a permanent living memorial to those victims. ([More](#))



Morale, Welfare & Recreation



Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

Visit the MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all MWR programs.

Arsenal Island Golf Course is Open

Spring is here! The Arsenal Island Golf Course is now open for the 2015 season so drag those clubs out of the attic and start loosening up & shaking off the winter blues, golf season is here. Call 309-793-1604 for more info and to make your tee times. We'll be rolling out online tee times this season as well so keep an eye out for that in the coming weeks.



Lock & Dam Lounge (bar formerly known as the Arsenal Club in Bldg. 60), Island Wide Social

Join your Island colleagues Friday, **April 3**, at 4 p.m., at the Lock & Dam Lounge for a fun evening of appetizers, drinks, networking, and socializing and karaoke. This event is open to the entire RIA workforce. Call 309-782-4372 for more info. ([Flyer](#))

Easter Eggstravaganza

Plenty of fun will be had Saturday, **April 4**, at 10 a.m., at Memorial Park, so make sure you and your children don't miss out. There will be all kinds of activities like golden Easter egg hunts, free photos with the Easter Bunny, egg decorating, a cake walk, bounce houses and many other games and activities. The health clinic will also conduct a teddy bear clinic so bring your stuffed friends and dolls to have them checked out and fixed up. See the flyer for specific times for the egg hunts and call 309-782-2828 for more info. ([Flyer](#))



Easter Brunch Buffet

Bring the whole family Sunday, **April 5**, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., and enjoy a delicious Easter Brunch at the historic and beautiful Arsenal Island Clubhouse. Cost is \$21.95/adult and \$9.95/child (12 & under). Call 309-782-4372 for more info and to make your reservations. ([Flyer](#))

Daily Lunch Service Resumes at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse

Regular lunch service at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse comes out of hibernation on Tuesday, **April 7**, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., with an exciting new format and different menu items sure to tempt your taste buds. Our new soup, salad and sandwich buffet featuring fresh baked breads is a quick option that will allow you to have a quick, sit-down lunch that you custom build for just \$9/person. We will also offer a grab-and-go option featuring the same menu that is offered at the Island Oasis in the Fitness Center with the addition of daily specials. This is perfect for short lunch breaks where you need to get the food fast but you'll also have the option of dining in the bar area. Call 309-782-6319 for more info. ([Flyer](#)) ([Menu](#))

Entire Month of April, Oil Change Special at the Auto Skills Shop

April is Spring Car Care Month, a good time to kick the tires and check the fluids after a long cold winter and in anticipation of summer driving conditions. All month long you can get a full service standard oil change (includes up to five quarts of oil, oil filter and 25 point inspection) for just \$21, or a full service Mobil 1™ synthetic oil change for \$51 (includes up to six quarts of Mobil 1™ oil, oil filter and 25 point inspection). Call 309-782-8631 to schedule an appointment or for more info. ([Flyer](#))

Beer Pairing Dinner

Do you like craft beer? What about fine cuisine? What about craft beer perfectly paired with fine cuisine? Then get all your foodie & beer connoisseur friends together and get signed up for our next beer pairing dinner **April 17**, 6-10 p.m., at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse. This fun evening will feature brews from local brew masters, Great River Brewery alongside gastronomic delights from our talented chef and kitchen crew designed to complement and enhance each other. Cost is \$45/person and includes six courses and a keepsake Great River glass that's yours to keep. There will be a cocktail hour from 6-7 p.m. and dinner will start at 7 p.m. Please RSVP on or before **April 15** by calling 309-782-4372. ([Menu](#)) ([Flyer](#))

Garden Plot Program Cancelled This Season

The annual Garden Plot Program will not be offered this year. The current site is located where construction of housing will begin this spring. We hope to have another site prepared and ready for the 2016 planting season. If you have additional questions please call Bob Lampert at 309-782-8630.

Date Night Dance Classes

Come join local dance group, QC SoDa (QC Social Dancing), every Thursday, at 7 p.m., in Heritage Hall (Bldg. 60), for a fun evening of dance lessons in various styles including Swing, Salsa and more. Classes are \$8/person/class or \$35/individual or \$60/couple for the full six week session. Sign up and pay the first night you attend class. ([Flyer](#))

MWR Leisure Travel Office



Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Bldg. 333. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., 309-782-5890. ([email](#)) ([website](#))

Books Are Fun

Books Are Fun will once again be visiting the Rock Island Arsenal for two days. They will be in Bldg. 60 Heritage Hall dining area **April 16-17**. They will have discounted books and other merchandise.

Time: **9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Church Basement Ladies (The Last Potluck Supper)

All new show – the latest and final installment in the uproarious series, the lovely ladies of the church kitchen serve up a rib-tickling panorama of the Church's changes, without spilling a drop of their egg coffee. Leisure Travel has discounted tickets on sale until **April 11**. This is a show that always sells out.

Date: **Saturday, April 25**

Time: **5:45 p.m.**

MWR Spring Fair

MWR has invited 40 vendors to participate at this two-day vendor fair. All sorts of products will be offered from Enchiladas to Scentsy. This event will be held in Heritage Hall dining area, Bldg 60. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Wednesday, April 29**

Time: **9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Pretty In Pink Doll Party

This is our first Pretty In Pink Doll Party. The party will take place at Historical Quarters One. Finger food and dessert buffet, free photo with your favorite doll, movie with free popcorn and other activities. Cost is \$25 per person. Limited seating. For more details contact the Leisure Travel Office. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Saturday, May 2**

Time: **1-3 p.m.**

Chuggington Live! The Great Rescue Adventure at the Adler Theatre

The Great Rescue Adventure the trainees are on their first day of advanced training, and are eager to impress their mentors by mastering new roles that test their courage, speed, and determination. Limited discount seats available for \$33.50. Section B, Row G, Seats 1-10.

Date: **Tuesday, May 12**
Time: **6:30 p.m.**

NASCAR Xfinity Series Bus Trip

Bus will depart from the Auto Skills Center, Bldg. 351 at 8 a.m. with no stops en route. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to departure, refreshments provided prior to departure. Limited alcohol allowed on the bus. Pre-register by **April 1** and receive 50 percent off a Fan Pass for access behind pit row for \$5. Cost of bus trip is \$69. Event registration ends **April 20**. Seats are filling up fast. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Sunday, May 17**
Time: **8 a.m.**

Professional Bull Riders

Coming to the iWireless Center - The PBR's BlueDEF Velocity Tour is a collaboration between PBR and AEG, the leading sports, entertainment and venue operator in the world, which offers established and up-and-coming bull riders the opportunity to gain the valuable points needed to qualify for the PBR's elite Built Ford Tough Series. Leisure Travel has limited discount seats until **June 1**. Section 116 Rows 9 & 10 are \$49, Section 105 Rows 7 & 8 are \$29.

Date: **Saturday, June 13**
Time: **7 p.m.**

Cubs vs. Cardinals Bus Trip

MWR Leisure Travel has a Cubs vs. Cardinals bus trip scheduled. Cost will be \$99 per person to include transportation and ticket to game. Seats are located in Upper Deck Box Outfield. Departing from RIA at 6 a.m. from the COL Davenport Pavilion. Limited alcohol permitted on chartered bus. Coolers must fit under the seats and not block the aisle. No glass bottles. No smoking permitted on motor coach. Estimated return time will be 8 p.m. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Saturday, Sept. 19**
Time: **12:05 p.m.**

Davenport Cinemark 53rd 18 + IMAX Theatre

Leisure Travel is selling Platinum Supersaver Prepaid Admission Tickets to Davenport Cinemark 53rd 18 + IMAX theatre (formerly 53rd cinemas and RAVE cinemas) These tickets have no restrictions or expiration date.



Child, Youth & School Services



Youth Summertime Activities Expo

Attention all parents! Do you need to find activities to keep you and your child busy this summer? Do you need ideas for summer fun? Need information about volunteer opportunities for your child or teen? In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child, the Rock Island Arsenal Family Advocacy Program and Child, Youth and School Services will be hosting the Second Annual Youth Summertime Activities Expo on Saturday, **April 11**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Fitness Center. The purpose of the Youth Summertime Activities Expo is to provide information to

QC residents on the opportunities available to families of children 0-18 years of age during the summer months. The Expo will host agencies in four major categories, summer fun and activities (free and fee-for-service), day and resident camps, volunteer opportunities and education. Vendors will have games/activities for the children. A pinwheel garden (sponsored by the Child Abuse Council) will be displayed and a dedication signing ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m. that day in front of the RIA Fitness Center. This event will be free and open to the public. [Email](#) or call 309-782-3049 for more information. Hope to see everyone there. ([Flyer](#))

2015 Military Child of the Year Award – Recognizing Young Patriots

Operation Homefront is pleased to present the Military Child of the Year Award to outstanding military children who demonstrate resiliency, leadership and achievement. Recipients representing each service branch are recognized at a Washington, DC Gala celebration in April each year. The seventh annual award will be presented **April 16** at the Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City, near Washington, DC. In addition to the trip to our nation's capital, recipients are awarded a laptop computer and a \$10,000 award. To learn more about Operation Homefront and the Military Child of the Year Award, please go to: www.militarychildoftheyear.org



ACS is located in Bldg. 110, 1st floor SE; [Visit our ACS website](#) or phone 309-782-0829. Call ahead for special accommodations when attending ACS classes. [Find us on Facebook click here](#). 24/7 Sexual Assault Hotline: **309-229-8412**.



ASAP/EAP is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor; visit our [ASAP/EAP website](#) or phone 309-782-4357 or 309-782-HELP. Office hours are from 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After Hour Emergencies: 309-782-6116. Rock Island Arsenal Emergency Services will contact an EAP counselor who will call you back promptly. [Find us on Facebook click here](#).

National Alcohol Screening Day – April 2015

Good news. Did you know that a glass of wine with dinner or beer on Friday night with friends might be good for you. A compilation of research detailing the health benefits of moderate alcohol use suggests that it can reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, dementia, and even the common cold ([Hanson, 2007](#)). However, this research leads us to ask, what is moderate alcohol use? It is important to distinguish between moderate and heavy alcohol use, as consuming excessive amounts of alcohol can lead to many problems. In the short term you may be more likely to have an accident, commit a violent act (alcohol use is associated with two out of three incidents of intimate partner violence), or engage in risky sexual behavior that you would normally avoid. Long term health problems, including increased risk of stroke, dementia, depression, high blood pressure and certain cancers are well known for being consequences of heavy alcohol use ([Centers for Disease](#)

[Control and Prevention, 2008](#)). To help you know if you are using alcohol moderately rather than in a way that is hazardous, the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program is honoring National Alcohol Screening Day, **April 9**, by offering you the opportunity to schedule a screening with an EAP counselor. You can also access an anonymous screening at www.drinkingiq.org. We here at the Rock Island Arsenal EAP hope that you will raise your glass in the name of good health and take a quick check of your drinking habits to help ensure your good health stays that way.

Alcohol Awareness Month

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. Alcohol is the most commonly used drug in the United States (National Institute on Drug Abuse). Alcohol is popular, socially accepted, and legal. Yet it is the most frequent cause of individual and family pain and suffering. Alcohol Awareness Month is an opportunity to raise awareness about alcohol misuse and encourage people to make healthy, safe choices. During this month, take time to educate yourself and your loved ones about the dangers of alcohol misuse. One way to educate yourself about your own drinking is to take the anonymous alcohol use self-assessment online at www.DrinkingIQ.org. The Survey is free and can give you feedback about your drinking and if you may be at risk. If you would like to learn more about alcohol or have any questions, please call the EAP at 2-HELP (4357) or look for an EAP staff member at your lunch cafeteria in April.



Education/Training Review



The Rock Island Army Education Center is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor, west end of the building. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday. Phone: 309-782-2065 Fax: 309-782-7901. [Please visit our website to learn more.](#)

Education Center Closure

The RIA Education Center will be closed on Friday, **April 3**.

Employment-Education Event at Rock Island Arsenal

Mark your calendars now! The Directorate of Human Resources, U.S. Army Garrison, will be hosting the semi-annual Employment-Education Event on Wednesday, **April 15**, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., in the Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60. Soldiers, veterans, and family members are the target audience for this great event. More than 60 employers from throughout the Midwest as well as more than 20 academic institutions and many veterans service organizations that attended our 2014 events. Valid job offers were made and accepted! We expect at least the same level of participation and success for this event. Employers may have jobs available in locations nation-wide as well as in the Quad Cities area and throughout the Midwest. This event represents a great opportunity for employers to review resumes, interview candidates, and potentially hire separating active duty, Reserve, and National Guard Soldiers, veterans, and family members. Please come ready; have resumes to hand out and be appropriately dressed for a possible interview. Academic institutions will have experts on hand to provide information on programs of study as well as on the GI Bill and scholarship opportunities, for both local and online classes. They will provide information regarding educational opportunities for Soldiers, veterans, and family members. Veterans service

organizations will be available to assist with resources, benefit information, and resume development. Army Community Services, holds scheduled resume writing classes on a routine basis for active duty and retired Soldiers and eligible family members. Individual resume and interview training is also available by request. For further information, please contact [Christopher Gegenheimer](#), at 309-782-0815. Any questions about the event can be directed to Sharon Lampert, 309-782-7780 or Lafayette Ausborn, 309-782-4799, or email usarmy.ria.usag.mbx.hrm-tsm@mail.mil. Don't let this great opportunity pass you by!

2015 WID Scholarship

The Iowa/Illinois Chapter, Women In Defense, a national security organization, has established an annual scholarship to provide opportunities of higher education for students who are interested in achieving a place of leadership in their chosen fields. Applicants will be limited to those individuals meeting one or more of the following criteria and who have never received a scholarship from Women In Defense: A current member of the Iowa/Illinois chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association or WID and their dependents; corporate charter members and their dependents; current government employees on Rock Island Arsenal or Iowa Army Ammunition Plant and their dependents. Note: Dependents are defined as children, step-children, children of legal guardian, or spouse. Scholarship applications can be found at www.widiic.org. All applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, **May 1**. For additional information, the point of contact is Sonja Johnson Wills, Scholarship Chair, 571-264-6346.

NDIA Scholarship

The Iowa Illinois Chapter NDIA is accepting applications for its one-year \$2,000 scholarship. This scholarship is available to high school senior students of the NDIA chapter members and civilian and military employees on Arsenal Island. Scholarship applications can be found at www.ndia-ia-il.org. Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 24**. Call John Masengarb, 563-650-3252, for additional information.

NDIA Lifetime Achievement Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the Lt. Gen. (Ret) Lawrence Skibbie award for Lifetime Contributions to National Defense, the Maj. Gen. (Ret) William Eicher award for Lifetime Contributions to the Weapons Industrial Base and the Maj. Gen. (Ret) Paul Greenberg award for Lifetime Contributions to the Ammunition Industrial Base. Applications must be postmarked no later than **April 12**. Send nominations to Jimmy Morgan, 289 Niabi Zoo Road, Coal Valley, IL 61240 or jimcmorgan@aol.com. Application details at www.ndia-ia-il.org.

Sgt. Paul Fisher Scholarship

The Iowa Illinois Chapter NDIA is accepting applications for its one-year \$2,000 Sgt. Paul Fisher Scholarship. This scholarship is available high school seniors of active military, reserve, National Guard, or veteran in zip codes 61200-61699 in Illinois and 50000-52899 in Iowa. Scholarship applications can be found at www.ndia-ia-il.org. Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 24**. Call John Masengarb, 563-650-3252, for additional information.

Army Emergency Relief Announces Opening of Scholarship Application Period

Army Emergency Relief has announced the opening of its scholarship application period. Applications will be accepted from **Jan. 2** until **May 1**. AER supports both the Spouse Scholarship Program, as well as the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program for dependent children. Scholarship specifics and the applications are available on [AER's website](#). The Spouse Scholarship

can be used for full or part-time students, while the Ursano Scholarship is only for full-time students. Last year AER awarded 3,637 scholarships, totaling more than \$8.8 million to Spouses and Children of Soldiers. "The entire scholarship process is on line," said Tammy LaCroix, manager for AER's scholarship programs. "Last year we found that the on line process worked best for those who downloaded the step-by-step instructions and used them as a checklist." "Applicants are able to create their own profile, submit their documentation online, and check their status," added LaCroix. "This proved to be a huge time saver for both the applicants and the scholarship staff." ([More](#))

RIA AUSA Scholarship Program 2015-2016

The Rock Island Arsenal Association of the United States Army announces the annual scholarship program for 2015-2016 school year. Applications are available on the RIA AUSA web site at www.ria-ausa.org. Eligible applicants must reside in the RIA AUSA geographical footprint covering eastern Iowa and western Illinois identified in the application, and be associated with the military as a current military member, veteran, family member or DoD civilian. Applicants can download the application and return it completed no later than **May 1** to the mailing address listed in the application form. Questions can be directed to the RIA AUSA chapter representative Tim Considine, at considinet@aol.com or by calling 512-565-4089.

Area Schools to Visit RIA

The [Army Continuing Education Systems Rock Island Arsenal](#) is coordinating with Quad-City area schools to have them visit with eligible Ed Center patrons where they will meet with school representatives and learn about educational opportunities in the Quad Cities. These visits will take place in Bldg. 56, Room 121, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The schedule for this fiscal year is: • Ashford University, **April 21**, and **July 23**; • Black Hawk College, **April 9** and **July 9**; • Eastern Iowa Community College, **April 2**, **May 7**, **June 4**, **July 2**, **Aug. 6** and **Sept. 3**; • Kaplan University, **May 14**, and **Aug. 13**; • Saint Ambrose University, **April 16**, and **July 16**; • Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, **May 21** and **Aug. 20**; • Upper Iowa University, **May 13**, and **Aug. 12**.



The [Rock Island Commissary](#) and the [Exchange](#) are for active duty military and retirees only. There are exceptions for select items (mainly consumable) at the Exchange that can be purchased by Arsenal Island employees with ID. The Commissary makes fresh fruit baskets daily for you! Shopping for someone who has everything? Problem solved. They are hungry for fresh fruit. Just buy them a fruit basket and relax. Ask our friendly staff to make you one or order one in advance. Check out local specials and get POC information [HERE](#). For information on this and other Commissaries, visit: www.commissaries.com ([Facebook](#))

Easter Sunday is April 5

It's worth the trip to visit your commissary for special Easter savings! Commissaries will be having sales on Easter chocolates and candy, egg decorating kits and everything you'll need to prepare the perfect family dinner, including hams in your commissary's meat department.

Exchange Opens Earlier, Serves Breakfast

The Exchange located on Rock Island Arsenal began opening at 7 a.m. Oct. 1. Also effective Oct. 1, the Exchange began featuring heat-and-eat breakfast items at the front of the store. "We will be running these hours for two months to make sure that there will be demand to be open at 7 a.m.," said Carl Wolfe, store manager, Rock Island Exchange. "We are really hoping with the Exchange having an entire new 'Heat and Eat,' that we will cater to the Soldiers coming on the Island in the morning and we know a lot of them have PT in the mornings and this will give them a chance to grab something before they go in the office for the day." The new open-to-close store hours are 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; and 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The "Heat and Eat" items being sold in the mornings will include: Breakfast Tornados, Breakfast Deli Express sandwiches, Cappuccino, and coffee, Roller Bites, and Breakfast Style Pizza. The Exchange will also have a lunch menu to include: Tornado's, Deli Express hot and cold sandwiches, hot dogs, Polish sausage, jalapeno sausage, Roller Bites, egg rolls, and pizza. In addition, the Exchange will also have microwaveable meals, soup, and Asian noodles for sale all day long.



Arsenal Archive

Information for the Arsenal Archive is made available by the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. The Museum is open to the public, Tuesday through Saturday, 12-4 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday, federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. Admission is free. ([website](#))

RIA Historical Society Monthly Meeting

The Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society will have its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, **April 2**, in the Veranda Room of the Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse. The menu for dinner is tossed salad with roasted vegetables and herb vinaigrette, grilled ham steaks with maple glaze, mashed potatoes and medley of vegetables, peach upside down cake with lemon custard. All dinners include rolls, breadsticks, coffee, tea and water. The total cost is \$14 per person including tax and tip. Our event is open to both members and non-members. Interested parties may choose to attend only the program portion of the meeting at 7 p.m. at no cost. The guest speaker will be Lawrence Bay, long time history buff, who will concentrate on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the hunt for John Wilkes Booth. For reservations call Monica 563-650-4349 or Linda 563-355-6165 or email chiicaliinda@aol.com. Reservations are due by Noon on Monday, **March 30**. Cancellations must be made by the reservation deadline or you will be liable for cost incurred and billed accordingly. If further clarification is required on this notice, please call Kris Leinicke at 309-782-3518. Visit the RIA Historical Society's Website at www.arsenalhistoricalsociety.org.

This Week in Rock Island Arsenal History – March 30-April 5

On March 26, 1898, the RIA received orders to produce 25,000 complete outfits of infantry equipment. RIA Fire Department was organized on April 1, 1918, with the hiring of 20 firemen and a fire chief.

Healthbeat

TRICARE Tip of the Week

How does a beneficiary get a TRICARE enrollment card? TRICARE enrollment cards may be viewed and printed on the milConnect website for those beneficiaries enrolled in TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Prime Remote, TRICARE Reserve Select, TRICARE Retired Reserve, and TRICARE Young Adult. In addition to the enrollment card, TRICARE beneficiaries should present their uniformed services identification card or Common Access Card at the time of service. TRICARE Standard beneficiaries use only their uniformed services ID card or CAC when seeking care. TRICARE For Life beneficiaries use their Medicare card along with their uniformed services ID card or CAC. Have A Great TRICARE Day!

Notes for Veterans

VA Announces New Grants to Help End Veteran Homelessness

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald today announced the award of nearly \$93 million in Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) 3-year grants that will help approximately 45,000 homeless and at-risk Veterans and their families. The grants will be distributed to 24 non-profit agencies in 15 communities, with \$30 million in awards being distributed to the Los Angeles area. “The Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to using evidence-based approaches such as SSVF to prevent homelessness and produce successful outcomes for Veterans and their families,” said Secretary McDonald. “This is a program that works, because it allows VA staff and local homeless service providers to work together to effectively address the unique challenges that make it difficult for some Veterans and their families to remain stably housed.” ([More](#))

VA Makes Gains in Faster Disability Claims Processing

The federal initiative to provide timely decisions on disability payments to Veterans has crossed a major milestone in its final sprint to eliminate the backlog of Veterans’ benefits claims. The major transformation effort to apply new technology and process solutions has paid off at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It reduced its inventory of backlogged claims from a high of 611,000 claims in March of 2013 to fewer than 200,000 this week, while at the same time improving decision quality. ([More](#))

Requirement of Standardized Claim, Appeal Forms

With the goal of making the application process easier and more efficient for our Veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs now requires Veterans seeking disability benefits to use standardized claim and appeal forms. These standardized forms guide Veterans to clearly state the symptoms or conditions for which they are seeking benefits and provide the information necessary for VA to start processing their claims and appeals. “This change will help VA provide faster and more accurate decisions to our Veterans, their families and survivors,” said Under Secretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey. “Standard forms are essential to better serve Veterans, build more

efficiency into VA's processes and bring us in line with other government agencies such as the Social Security Administration." ([More](#))

Around the Q.C.



C

- April 11:** [2nd Annual Youth Summertime Activities Expo](#) (Rock Island Arsenal Fitness Center)
April 11: [Bandits Race to Home 5K](#) (Modern Woodmen Park)
April 11: [Marine Corps League Trivia Night](#) (American Legion Post #26, 702 West 35th Street, Davenport)
April 11: [18th Annual Public Swap Meet](#) (QCCA)
April 11: [Kids Club: Powered by Nat Geo Kids](#) (SouthPark Mall, Moline)
April 11: [Father-Daughter Dance](#) (Golden Leaf Banquet Center, Davenport)
April 18: [Quad Cities on Tap Craft Beer Festival](#) (QCCA)
April 18: [Passport to Safety](#) (SouthPark Mall, Moline)
April 25: [March of Dimes March for Babies](#) (Rock Island Arsenal, Memorial Park)
April 25: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (3-6 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
May 2: [Festival of the Arts' Village in Bloom](#) (Village of East Davenport)
May 4-10: [Navy Week Quad Cities](#) (Quad City Area)
May 9-10: [29th Quad City Air Show, featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels](#) (Davenport Municipal Airport)
May 9-10: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Figge Art Museum Plaza, Downtown Davenport)
May 10-11: [Scott County Kennel Club AKC Dog Show](#) (QCCA)
May 16: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
May 16: [2nd Annual Live Fit With Lupus Run](#) (Black Watch Room, Pebble Creek Golf Course, LeClaire, Iowa)
May 22-31: [Historic Homes & Gardens of the Scottish Highlands](#) (QC Botanical Center, Rock Island)
May 25: [50th Annual Quad Cities Criterium](#) (Village of East Davenport)
June 1-6: [25th Annual Quad Cities Senior Olympics](#) (1800 3rd Ave, Rock Island)
June 3, 4: U.S. Army & NDIA Small Business/APBI Symposium (iWireless Center)
June 5-6: [Rhubarb Festival](#) (Aledo, Ill.)
June 6: [QC Pridefest](#) (Downtown Davenport)
June 12-13: [Gumbo Ya Ya](#) (The District, Rock Island)
June 13: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In Carshow](#) (4-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
June 13-21: [Quad Cities Museum Week](#) (Greater Quad Cities)
June 17-20: [Rally on the River](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
June 20: [2nd Annual Micro Brew Mile & 6K Road Race](#) (Moline)
June 21: [Ride the River Bike Ride](#) (Mississippi River bike paths, Iowa & Illinois)
June 28: [Blossoms at Butterworth](#) (Butterworth Center, Deere family homes, Moline)
July 3: [Red, White & Boom!](#) (The District, Rock Island & Downtown Davenport)
July 4: [Firecracker Run & Parade](#) (Run starts at 7:30 a.m. with the parade at 1 p.m., East Moline)
July 4: [Bettendorf Old-Fashioned 4th of July](#) (parade at 10 a.m.)
July 6-12: [John Deere Classic PGA TOUR](#) (TPC Deere Run golf course, Silvis, Ill.)
July 9-11: [Walcott Truckers Jamboree](#) (Iowa 80 Truckstop, Walcott, Iowa)
July 11: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
July 15-19: [Rock Island County Fair](#) (Fairgrounds, East Moline)
July 17: [Rock Island Arsenal Chapter AUSA Annual Golf Outing](#) (Arsenal Island Golf Course)
July 24-25: [Downtown Street Fest](#) (2nd Street in downtown Davenport)
July 25: [Bix 7 Run/Walk](#) (Downtown Davenport)
July 30-Aug. 2: [Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival](#) (RiverCenter/Adler Theatre, Davenport)
Aug. 4-9: [Great Mississippi Valley Fair](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport)
Aug. 6: [Freedom Run 5k](#) (Moline)
Aug. 7-8: [Ya Maka My Weekend](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Aug. 8: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
Aug. 13-15: [Tug Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa & Port Byron, Ill.)
Aug. 15: [Floatzilla](#) (Sunset Marina, Rock Island)

Aug. 28-29: [River Roots Live](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Aug. 28-30: [World Series of Dragracing](#) (Cordova Dragway, Cordova, Ill.)
Sept. 4-7: [Mississippi Valley Blues Festival](#) (LeClaire Park, downtown Davenport)
Sept. 5-6: [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (Downtown Rock Island)
Sept. 5-7: [Labor Day Weekend Pow Wow](#) (Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island)
Sept. 12: [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park, downtown Davenport)
Sept. 12: [QCA Heritage Tractor Parade & Show](#) (John Deere Pavilion, Moline)
Sept. 12: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
Sept. 12-13: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Sept. 18-19: [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
Sept. 19: [Brew Ha Ha](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
Sept. 19-20: [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Sept. 27: [Quad Cities Marathon](#) (downtown Moline)
Sept. 25-27: [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Kennedy Square, East Moline)
Oct. 10: [Trinity Quad Cities Classic Regatta](#) (Mississippi River in Moline)
Oct. 10: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (3-6 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimber Rd.)
Oct. 11: [Apple Fest](#) (Downtown LeClaire, Iowa)
Oct. 29: [Fright Night](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Oct. 24: [Lagomarcino's Cocoa Beano 5K Race](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Nov. 20-29: [Quad City Arts Festival of Trees](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)
Nov. 21: [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Nov. 21: [Lighting on the John Deere Commons](#) (Downtown Moline)
Dec. 4-6: [Heartland Emergency Response Conference Expo](#) (QCCA)



Island Insight



[Col. Elmer Speights, Jr., Garrison Commander](#); [Eric Cramer](#), Public Affairs Officer; [Mark Kane](#), Editor

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